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12 April 1971

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This report by [REDACTED] of the IG Staff focused on Information Processing from its very beginning. Records Management was brought in only incidentally after [REDACTED] interviewed me and told [REDACTED] to talk with me for his study.

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John was insistent that he would not consider the other facets of Records Creation or Disposition. He wanted to consider systems only. I believe our Program Call gives a more balanced analysis of the Total Records Program with its accomplishments and potential.

It is his opinion on page 36 that we have a "principle pre-occupation" with the space problem. At this moment in time that is correct and his 54 page report isn't big enough to cover all the records problems the Agency faces and that we struggle with on a continuing basis. The System is only one problem and that is recognized as a command responsibility. We provide advice and guidance. If we stop the Agency will have a serious calamity on its hands.

John's proposal on page 43 that we handle Archives ^{Part-time} reveals his lack of knowledge and perception and cannot be accepted. We will prepare a refutation with supporting evidence.

Attached for your information is the General Counsel opinion quoted on page 36.

On pages 10-12 he speaks of the enormous volumes of records from electronic devices of all types. He also mentions their enormous processing costs but fails to indicate that these exotic systems do not include final records storage. Our Records Center has much of its space taken by NPIC and will have more taken up by new products from NPIC and other devices. Our response to this study should use the opportunity to protest such incomplete planning for exotic new electronic systems. Their plans should not end with the operating office and ignore the subsequent systems requirement related to the storage and retrieval of the semi-active records from those systems.

I am sure I will have additional comments after I study this report but this will serve as an immediate reaction. I do believe the DDI and DDP Senior Records Management Officers should be given the advantage of reviewing the IG report.

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